



J. TYLER McCAULEY  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2766  
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December 30, 2005

TO: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley  
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – THE SHERMAN GROUP, INCORPORATED; CHRISTMAS TREE, KINGSLAND, SUNKIST, AND WENDY YOUTH CARE CENTERS**

We have completed a review of Christmas Tree, Kingsland, Sunkist, and Wendy Youth Care Centers (Group Home or Agency) operated by The Sherman Group. Each Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Christmas Tree, Kingsland and Sunkist Youth Care Centers are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Christmas Tree, and Kingsland, Youth Care Centers were each providing services for one Los Angeles County Probation child, and five children from Kern County Department of Human Services. Sunkist Youth Care Center was providing services for one Los Angeles County Probation child, and four children from Kern County Department of Human Services.

Wendy Youth Care Center Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social, and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Wendy Youth Care Center was providing services for one Los Angeles County Probation child and two children from Kern County Department of Human Services.

The Sherman Group Homes are located in Kern County.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

### **Scope of Review**

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues, and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection, and an interview with the one Los Angeles County child placed in each of the Group Homes at the time of the review. Interviews with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency, and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

### **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. However, the Agency needs to address several deficient areas.

Christmas Tree Youth Care Center needs to replace missing window screens, and replace the refrigerator light bulb.

Kingsland Youth Center needs to replace missing window and patio door screens; replace a refrigerator light bulb; repair a bathroom mirror; and re-caulk the children's bathtub.

Sunkist Youth Care Center needs to create comprehensive Needs and Services Plans.

Wendy Youth Care Center needs to replace a missing window screen; repair a burner on the kitchen stove; and create comprehensive Needs and Services Plans.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

### **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Mike Pirolo at (626) 293-1110.

JTM:MP:CC:dl

[http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group\\_home.asp](http://auditor.co.la.ca.us/group_home.asp)

Attachments

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
David Sanders, Ph.D., Director, DCFS  
Paul Higa, Chief Probation Officer  
Willie R. Sherman, Executive Director, The Sherman Group, Incorporated  
Public Information Office  
Audit Committee

The Sherman Group  
Christmas Tree Youth Care Center  
4405 Christmas Tree Lane  
Bakersfield, California 93305  
Phone: (626) 844-1560  
License Number: 157200916  
Rate Classification Level: 12

## I. Facility and Environment

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Christmas Tree Youth Care Center Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the light in the kitchen refrigerator is not working.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. Window coverings are in good repair; however, window screens are missing from bedrooms one, two, and three.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### Recommendations

#### **1. The Sherman Group Management:**

- a. Replace the light bulb in the kitchen refrigerator.
- b. Replace the missing window screens.

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child has not been in placement for thirty days, and does not yet require an initial needs assessment, or a Needs and Services Plan.

The child is not yet receiving treatment services.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Efforts are being made to enroll the child in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. The child reports he has not been in placement long enough to be given the opportunity to participate in planning activities.

Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no residents receiving psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and report that staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal

telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**The Sherman Group  
Kingsland Youth Care Center  
5813 Kingsland Avenue  
Bakersfield, California 93306  
Phone: (626) 844-1560  
License Number: 157201362  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

**I. Facility and Environment**

**Method of assessment – Observation**

**Comments:**

Kingsland Youth Care Center Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped. However, the screen on all the slider windows and sliding patio doors are missing.

The interior common quarters of the Group home are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the mirror in the children's bathroom has moisture damage. The caulk around the bathroom tub has mildew. The light in the kitchen refrigerator is not working.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

**Recommendations**

- 1. The Sherman Group Management:**
  - a. Replace all missing screens.**
  - b. Repair the damaged bathroom mirror.**

- c. Clean and re-caulk around the bathroom tub.
- d. Replace the light bulb in the kitchen refrigerator.

**II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home’s population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. The child has not been in placement for thirty days, and does not yet require an initial needs assessment, or a Needs and Services Plan.

The child is not yet receiving treatment services.

**Recommendations**

There are no recommendations for this section.

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home’s program includes the development of children’s daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

There are no recommendations for this section.

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. Children are given opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no residents receiving psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and report that staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal

telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**The Sherman Group  
Sunkist Youth Care Center  
6012 Sunkist Court  
Bakersfield, California 93306  
Phone: (626) 844-1560  
License Number: 157200167  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Sunkist Youth Care Center Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

## **II. Program Services**

### **Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current; however, they are not comprehensive, and do not include short and long term goals.

The case file reflects adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

**Recommendation**

1. The Sherman Group Management develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that have detailed, measurable, and achievable short and long term goals.

**III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. Children are given opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no residents receiving psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff, and report that staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal

telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**The Sherman Group  
Wendy Youth Care Center  
4409 Wendy Avenue  
Bakersfield, California 93306  
Phone: (626) 844-1560  
License Number: 157200489  
Rate Classification Level: 12**

## **I. Facility and Environment**

### **Method of assessment – Observation**

#### **Comments:**

Wendy Youth Care Center Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean, and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the window screen on the slider window over the kitchen sink is missing, and the left front electric burner on the kitchen stove is not working.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly, and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting, and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### **Recommendations**

#### **1. The Sherman Group Management:**

- a. Replace the missing window screen.**
- b. Repair the burner on the kitchen stove.**

## **II. Program Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

### **Comments:**

The child meets the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The treatment team develops and implements the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) with input from the child. The NSPs are current; however, they are not comprehensive, and do not include short and long term goals.

The case file reflects adequate documentation to show that the child is receiving treatment services.

### **Recommendation**

- 2. The Sherman Group Management develop comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that have detailed, measurable, and achievable short and long term goals.**

## **III. Educational and Emancipation Services**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

### **Comments:**

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help, and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

### **Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **IV. Recreation and Activities**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities, and leisure time. Children are given opportunities to participate in planning activities.

Children are allowed to participate in extra-curricular, enrichment, and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **V. Psychotropic Medication**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents**

**Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no residents receiving psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented.

Children are aware of their right to refuse medication.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

#### **VI. Personal Rights**

**Method of assessment –Interviews with children**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that she feels safe in the Group Home, and is provided with appropriate staff

supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of her interactions with staff, and report that staff treats her with respect and dignity.

The child reports that she is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to have private visitors, to make and receive personal telephone calls, and to send and receive unopened correspondence and mail. Children are able to attend religious services of their choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental, and psychiatric care.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**

**VII. Clothing and Allowance**

**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

**Sample size for interviews: One**

**Comments:**

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity, and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are given opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum base allowance. Children are permitted to spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items.

Children are encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

**Recommendations**

**There are no recommendations for this section.**



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ATTACHMENT  
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**THE SHERMAN GROUP, INC.**

**Christmas Tree Youth Care**

A Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation

4405 Christmas Tree Lane – Bakersfield, CA 93306 – (661) 871-2390 – Fax (661) 871-2391

September 22, 2005

Donald J. Luther, Department of Auditor Controller  
Ombudsman Division  
500 West Temple Street, Suite 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Luther,

**SUBJECT:** Christmas Tree Youth Care "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary"

On August 24, 2005 we received your "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary" regarding the audit of The Sherman Group Inc., **Christmas Tree Youth Care**. The following is a listing of your findings and our Corrective Actions for each:

Facility and Environment

1) **Screens missing from windows. – Implemented**  
On 9-13-05 and 9-20-05 screens were purchased and placed on each sliding window. See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Tonya Person, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

2) **Non-Working light bulb in kitchen refrigerator-Implemented**  
On 9-20-05 Uner's furniture repair rewired the malfunctioning refrigerator light bulb. See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Tonya Person, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

Sincerely,

  
Ethel Dixon  
Assistant Director



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ATTACHMENT  
**THE SHERMAN GROUP, INC.** Page 2 of 6  
**Kingsland Youth Care**

A Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation

5813 Kingsland Avenue – Bakersfield, CA 93306 – (661) 873-8781 – Fax (661) 873-8782

September 22, 2005

Donald J. Luther, Department of Auditor- Controller  
Ombudsman Division  
500 West Temple Street, Suite 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Luther,

**SUBJECT:** Kingsland Youth Care "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary"

On August 24, 2005, we received your "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary" regarding the audit of The Sherman Group Inc., **Kingsland Youth Care**. The following is a listing of your findings and our Corrective Actions for each:

Facility and Environment

- 1) **Screens missing from windows. - Implemented**  
On 9-13-05 screens were purchased and placed on each sliding window.  
See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Stephani Pierce, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

- 2) **Moldy caulk around the bathroom tub and a missing soap dish. - Implemented**  
On 9-13-05 heavy grip cement was used to replace the soap dish and all of the old caulk was removed and replaced with ready made bathtub trim.  
See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Stephani Pierce, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

- 3) **Water damage on the bathroom mirror. - Implemented**  
On 9-20-05 the mirror was taken to Floyd's General Store and the two inches of damaged area were removed. See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Stephani Pierce, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

- 4) **Non-working light bulb in the kitchen refrigerator. - Implemented**  
On 9-13-05 the light bulb in the refrigerator was replaced. See attached receipts.

Person responsible for implementing the corrective action and quality assurance: Stephani Pierce, Senior Facility Manager and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Regional Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective action remains implemented and is working as intended.

- 5) **Screens missing from sliding glass doors. -**  
On 9-21-05 two screen doors were ordered from Renee's Screen Center 1100 Brundage Lane Bakersfield, CA 93304 (661) 322-3123. Work on both screens will begin 9-27-05.

Sincerely,



Ethel Dixon  
Assistant Director



"Serving the needs of children"

ATTACHMENT  
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**THE SHERMAN GROUP, INC.**

**Sunkist Youth Care**

A Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation

6012 Sunkist Court – Bakersfield, CA 93306 – (661) 363-9232 Fax (661) 363-9023

September 22, 2005

Donald J. Luther Department of Auditor-Controller  
Ombudsman Division  
500 West Temple Street, Suite 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Luther,

SUBJECT: Sunkist Youth Care "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary"

On August 24, 2005 we received your "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary" regarding the audit of The Sherman Group, Inc. **Sunkist Youth Care**. The following is a listing of your findings and our Corrective Actions for each:

**Program Services:**

1. **Needs and Service Plan did not have short-term goals. - Implemented**  
All Counselors/Social Workers has been trained regarding documentation of measurable goals when writing residents Needs and Services Plans (see attached).

Persons responsible for implementing the corrective actions and quality assurance: Linda Hoyle, MFT and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective actions remains in place and is working as intended.

Sincerely,

  
Ethel Dixon  
Assistant Director



**THE SHERMAN GROUP, INC.**  
**Wendy Youth Care**

A Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation  
4409 Wendy Ave - Bakersfield, CA 93306 - (661) 872-8963 - Fax (661) 872-4559

*"Serving the needs of children"*

September 22, 2005

Donald J. Luther Department of Auditor-Controller  
Ombudsman Division  
500 West Temple Street, Suite 515-A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Luther,

SUBJECT: Wendy Youth Care "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary"

On August 20, 2005 we received your "Group Home Monitoring Review Field Exit Summary" regarding the audit of The Sherman Group, Inc. **Wendy Youth Care**. The following is a listing of your findings and our Corrective Actions for each:

**Facility and Environment:**

1. **Screens missing from windows. - Implemented**  
On September 13, 2005 screens were purchased and placed on each sliding window. (See receipts attached)
2. **Eye on range top not working. - Implemented**  
A range top was purchased on September 20, 2005 (see receipt attached). This range top will be installed on September 22, 2005. Installation information to follow.

**Program Services:**

3. **Needs and Service Plan did not have short-term goals. - Implemented**  
In regards to the Needs and Service Plan, the client, \_\_\_\_\_ graduated from our program. However, all Counselors/Social Workers has been trained regarding documentation of measurable goals when writing residents Needs and Services Plans (see attached).

Persons responsible for implementing the corrective actions and quality assurance: Linda Hoyle, MFT and Ethel Dixon, Assistant Director. Both will be responsible for monitoring and ensuring that the corrective actions remains in place and is working as intended.

Sincerely,  
  
Ethel Dixon  
Assistant Director

Attachment: **Wendy Youth Care Facility** Range Top Installation Information

The Range top was in stall on September 22, 2005 at 2:00 pm (see receipt attached).